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*An Elementary Experimental Chemistry.* By JOHN BERNARD EKELEY. New York: Silver, Burdett & Co.

THIS book is divided into three parts. Part I consists of experiments illustrating the general methods of preparation and the properties of the common metallic and nonmetallic elements and their compounds. The experiments are clearly stated and sufficiently detailed. The order of arrangement offers some advantages over the usual one, but may have a tendency to dissipate rather than concentrate the mind on the subject at hand. Some of the experiments might better be reserved for the lecture-room, especially when large classes are to be handled.

The experiments in Part II illustrate the laws and theories of chemistry. The number given is unusually large, and some of them require too much time and skill and too complex apparatus to be serviceable in a large majority of the schools even of the better college class.

Part III is a description of the elements and compounds studied in the former sections, and contains an outline of qualitative analysis.

The book, as a whole, contains much valuable material, though not new, but there is danger that it cannot be used in high schools, nor in colleges except where apparatus in large quantities and of somewhat an unusual kind can be secured. Some of the conclusions are unwarranted, some statements of fact wrong and some of the English quite misleading. There is a question whether the general plan of the book is the best. But by better digestion and adaptation it may become a valuable text.

JAS. H. RANSOM.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY.

*Physical Experiments.* A Laboratory Manual. By JOHN F. WOODHULL and R. D. VAN ARSDALE. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1900.

THIS book consists of a rather sketchy outline of some of the simplest and commonest experiments in Physics. The book might be useful to suggest experiments to a teacher of Elementary Physics, but could hardly be used as a Laboratory Manual, because the experiments are too largely qualitative.

H. G. GALE.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

*Exercises in Natural Philosophy.* By MAGNUS MACLEAN. London: Longmans, Green & Co., 1900.

THIS book contains over seven hundred well selected problems, including both questions on theory and numerical examples, of grade corresponding to a first college course. Some of the most important formulæ are derived and hints for solution accompany most of the examples. To a teacher lacking sufficient originality to formulate his own questions the book would be very useful.

H. G. GALE.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

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#### SOME RECENT SPANISH TEXTS.

ALARCÓN'S *El Capitán Veneno*. Edited, with vocabulary and notes, by G. G. BROWNELL. American Book Company, pp. 143 (93 of text.)

THIS story of a confirmed woman hater and of his subsequent discomfiture at his own game, is one of the most entertaining and best known of the author's work. It